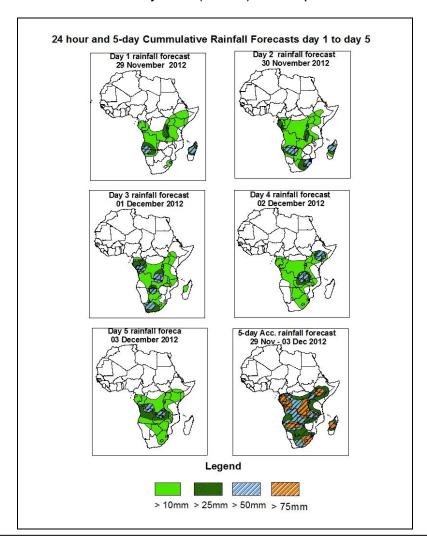


NCEP Contributions to the WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) and to the African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis (AMMA) Initiative

1.0. Rainfall Forecast: Valid 06Z of 29 November – 06Z of 03 December 2012. (Issued at 16:00Z of 28 November 2012)

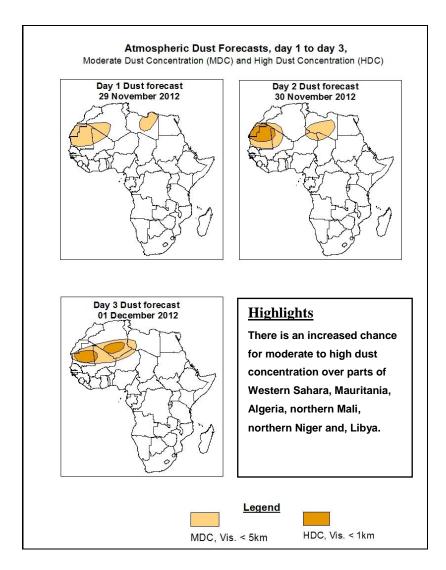
1.1. Twenty Four Hour Cumulative Rainfall Forecasts

The forecasts are expressed in terms of 75% probability of precipitation (POP) exceeded, based on the NCEP, UK Met Office and the ECMWF NWP outputs, the NCEP global ensemble forecasts system (GEFS) and expert assessment.



Summary

In the next five days, active wind convergences near the CAB region, a lower level wind convergence near Gabon, localized wind convergences over East Africa, lower-level wind convergences over parts of South African countries, and eastward propagating trough across Madagascar are expected to enhance rainfall in their respective regions. Thus, there is an increased chance for heavy rainfall over Gabon, parts of Congo, Angola, northern Namibia, northern Botswana, northern Zambia, DRC, Uganda, parts of Tanzania and Kenya, local areas in Ethiopia, eastern South Africa and Madagascar.



1.2. Model Discussion: Valid from 00Z of 28 November 2012

Model comparison (Valid from 00Z; 28 November 2012) shows all the three models are in general agreement in terms of depicting eastward shift of the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene). However, the models show differences in terms of central pressure values.

The St. Helena High pressure system over southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to weaken, while shifting to Southwest Indian Ocean, to become the Mascarene high pressure system through 24 to 96 hours. Its central pressure value is expected to decrease from 1029hpa to 1026hpa, according to the ECMWF and the GFS models, and from 1031hpa to 1026hpa according to the UKMET model.

The Mascarene high pressure system over southwestern Indian Ocean is expected to shift eastwards, while giving way to the newly forming high pressure system. The newly high pressure system is expected to attain central pressure value of 1024hpa according to the ECMWF and GFS models, and 1023hpa according to the UKMET model, towards end of the forecast period.

The seasonal lows across the southern African countries are expected to deepen through 24 to 72 hours, with their central pressure value becoming as low as 1007hap according to the ECMWF model, and 1005hpa, according to the GFS and UKMET models.

At the 850hpa level, the seasonal lower level wind convergence is expected to remain more or less active over parts of DRC and the neighboring areas, with stronger and deeper convergences expected over southern DRC and the neighboring areas of Zambia through 72 to 96 hours. A lower level wind convergence is expected to prevail near the Angola/Botswana/Namibia border through 24 to 72 hours. Wind convergences are also expected to remain active near Gabon, parts of Kenya and Ethiopia, and eastern Tanzania. A lower-level trough in westerlies expected to dominate the flow over eastern South Africa and Madagascar. In contrast, lower level anticyclonic flow is expected to dominate near Zimbabwe, northeastern South Africa and Mozambique through 24 to 72 hours.

At 500hpa, a trough in the mid-latitude westerlies is expected dominate the flow over Northwest and North Africa, while a mid-tropospheric anticyclonic flow prevails over Northeast Africa.

At 200hpa, the northern hemisphere sub-tropical westerly jet is expected to remain strong across Northeast Africa, with the core wind speed exceeding 130kts.

In the next five days, active wind convergences near the CAB region, a lower level wind convergence near Gabon, localized wind convergences over East Africa, lower-level wind convergences over parts of South African countries, and eastward propagating trough across Madagascar are expected to enhance rainfall in their respective regions. Thus, there is an increased chance for heavy rainfall over Gabon, parts of Congo,

Angola, northern Namibia, northern Botswana, northern Zambia, DRC, Uganda, parts of Tanzania and Kenya, local areas in Ethiopia, eastern South Africa and Madagascar.

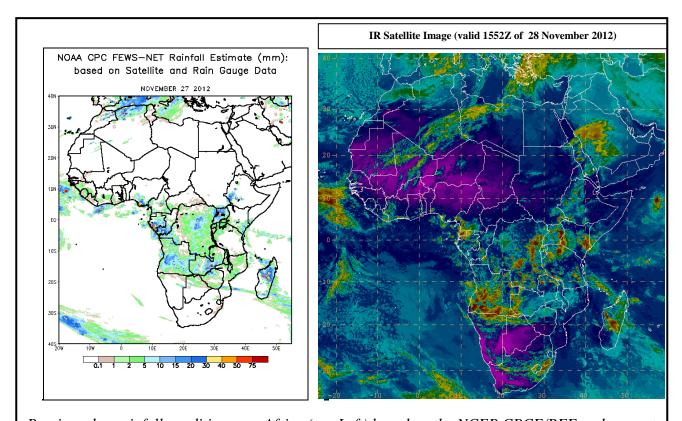
2.0. Previous and Current Day Weather Discussion over Africa (27 November 2012 – 28 November 2012)

2.1. Weather assessment for the previous day (27 November 2012)

During the previous day, moderate to locally heavy rainfall was observed over parts of Gabon, DRC, Angola, Uganda, Ethiopia, Zambia and Madagascar.

2.2. Weather assessment for the current day (28 November 2012)

Intense clouds are observed across many parts of Central African region, portions of the Horn of Africa, and portions of Southern Africa countries, including Madagascar.



Previous day rainfall condition over Africa (top Left) based on the NCEP CPCE/RFE and current day cloud cover (top right) based on IR Satellite image

Author: Izuchukwu Ebenebe, (Nigeria Meteorological Agency / CPC-African Desk); izu.ebenebe@noaa.gov